PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee** was held on Monday, November 24, 2014 in Room 161, UW Extension, 1150 Bellevue Street, Green Bay, WI

Present: Chairman Dantinne, Supervisor Bernie Erickson, Supervisor Landwehr,

Supervisor Tom Sieber, Supervisor Dave Kaster, Norb VandeHei

Also Present: Jim Jolly, Jon Bechle, Executive Streckenbach, Chad Weininger and other interested parties

I. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dantinne at 6:00 p.m.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Supervisor Landwehr, seconded by Supervisor Sieber to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. Approve/Modify Minutes of October 27, 2014.

Motion made by Supervisor Kaster, seconded by Supervisor Erickson to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Comments from the Public None.

1. Budget Status Financial Report for October, 2014.

Land and Water Conservation Director Jim Jolly informed they were doing really well. They had a rough conservative estimate that they would be at least \$48,000 in the black at the end of the year. Their permits were going to be up a little bit and they had other revenues that could potentially come in before the end of the year.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by N. Vande Hei to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Budget Adjustment Request (14-98): Reallocation of more than 10% of the funds original appropriated between any of the levels of appropriation.

The Land and Water Conservation Department would like to use one-time staff personnel cost savings to purchase 2 certified used vehicles or new (Chevy Equinox or similar SUV) to replace a 1997 Dodge Intrepid and a 1998 Dodge Dakota. The personnel savings is a one-time savings due to the inability to find qualified staff to fill open positions in early 2014.

Additionally, the vehicles being replaced were identified in the original Fleet Management Plan as needing replacement in 2017.

Jolly informed that he was working with Operations Manager Tony Elfe at the Highway Department; they will be buying three trucks off the state purchasing agreement. If they add vehicles to it, they can get even better deals.

Motion made by Supervisor Landwehr, seconded by Supervisor Sieber to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Director's Report.**

Jolly updated the committee on the manure, the timing and the weather within the county. They were in a world of hurt right now, it was brutal and farmers weren't able to get the manure out. He had staff inform that they were going to try and help them find places where it was the least minimal environmental risk, and that was the best they could do with the winter spreading plans. It was a late spring planting, a late harvest and now they get snow and rain; there was nothing they could do. The environmental degradation was going to be higher this year than most. They were trying to do their best and plan the fields with the least environmental risk.

This year gave them a reason to pursue technology really hard, something that gave the landowners an alternative, some kind of waste transformation, some place they could take their manure when they got into situations like this to help them out. They had the opportunity to do that with a community feasibility study that WPS was funding next year.

This week they had three new grants, \$69,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to a fish bypass around the pond across the street from the zoo. They received \$150,000 from NRDA to continue the West Shore activities. He talked them into allowing them to use \$60,000 of that for staffing for 2016. Jolly received a call at the end of last week from Gary of US Fish and Wildlife Services; they were giving them \$10,000 to use as supplemental money to give to landowners. It was a good week.

With regard to the Demo Farms, they were teaming up with USGS and UWGB to make sure they study the health of the soils on the farms. They were trying to increase the soil structure, the infiltration rates. They had done some testing and in good structured soils with a lot of organic matter, they could get 12-14" of infiltration per hour. On the soils they typically had in the county, about 1.3" an hour. If they could increase infiltration rates by that level, they could significantly reduce their runoff volume. USGS was going to help them develop a paired watershed study, take one field that had two five acre watersheds coming through it, they were going to treat one of those five acre segments in the traditional way and the other half of the field, ramp up the conservation efforts so that they could immediate results in a side by side comparison. That should help them get quicker results to make better decisions. In January they will give a full update on what they did with that project.

Motion made by Supervisor Landwehr, seconded by Supervisor Sieber to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Other

4. Such other matters as authorized by law.

Land Conservation Subcommittee Chairman Dantinne thanked Citizen Rep Norb Vande Hei for serving and participating on their committee for eight years. His term will be up in 2016 so December would be his last meeting. He will be missed.

5. Adjourn.

Motion made by N. Vande Hei, seconded by Supervisor Sieber to adjourn at 6:13 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted, Alicia A. Loehlein Recording Secretary